

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY TEXT AS RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY EUR:RDVINE

S/S-S:RPERSIKO (7614064)

S/S: MR. BRIDGES

EUR/CE:DANDERSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS STATE 173510

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, GW, US

SUBJECT: MESSAGE OF THANKS FROM THE PRESIDENT TO FRG

-- PRESIDENT SCHEEL

1. FYI. TEXT OF THE CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE RECEIVED BY
THE PRESIDENT THROUGH THE GERMAN EMBASSY HERE.

BEGIN TEXT. ON THE OCCASION OF THE NATIONAL HOLIDAY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, I EXTEND TO YOU THE GERMAN
PEOPLE'S AND MY OWN WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS. ON THIS
MEMORABLE DAY WHICH MEANS SO MUCH TO THE ADVANCE OF DEMO-
CRACY, CIVIL LIBERTY AND THE RULE OF LAW, THE UNITED
STATES CAN LOOK BACK WITH PRIDE AND GRATITUDE ON TWO
HUNDRED YEARS OF A GREAT HISTORY THAT HAS LED THE COUNTRY
TO ITS PRESENT POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE WORLD
AND THE COMMUNITY OF FREE NATIONS. THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
THE PAST WILL ENDOW THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WITH THE MORAL
STRENGTH AND CONFIDENCE TO MASTER THE IMMENSE CHALLENGES
CONFRONTING THE UNITED STATES AND THE ENTIRE WORLD.

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ON THE FOURTH OF JULY, 1976, I OBSERVE WITH JOY AND SATISFACTION THAT THROUGH MANY ENCOUNTERS THE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS AFFIRM CLOSE AND TRUSTING RELATIONS NOT ONLY BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS BUT ALSO BETWEEN THE TWO PEOPLES. A GREAT NUMBER OF GERMAN-AMERICAN EVENTS ARE TAKING PLACE THIS YEAR ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC. VISITS OF MANY DELEGATIONS TO THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY CONTRIBUTE TO KEEPING GERMAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP FIRMLY ROOTED IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE PUBLIC IN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

I AM CONVINCED THAT OUR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND THE EXCELLENT STATE OF OUR RELATIONS WILL CONTINUE IN THE FUTURE TO WORK FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR PEOPLE.

TOGETHER WITH THIS HOPE I EXPRESS MY BEST WISHES FOR YOUR PERSONAL WELL-BEING AND FOR A HAPPY FUTURE FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. WALTER SCHEEL, PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. END TEXT.

2. PLEASE CONVEY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO FRG PRESIDENT SCHEEL ON BEHALF OF THE PRESIDENT.

BEGIN TEXT. DEAR PRESIDENT SCHEEL, ON BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, MRS. FORD AND I THANK YOU FOR YOUR MOST WELCOME MESSAGE OF GOOD WISHES ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATION'S INDEPENDENCE.

AS WE ENTER OUR THIRD CENTURY, THE UNITED STATES REDEDICATES ITSELF IN WORD AND DEED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY, EQUALITY AND INDIVIDUAL DIGNITY. WE DO SO WITH THE ANTICIPATION AND CONFIDENCE THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO FLOURISH. SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD. END TEXT.

3. WHITE HOUSE HAS NO PLANS TO RELEASE TEXT OF THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, BUT HAS NO OBJECTION TO ITS RELEASE IN THE FRG. KISSINGER

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